

News Release

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Planning Commission adopts Hearing Officer's report and recommendation in County's favor on TVR contested case hearing

LĪHU'E – On Tuesday, Jan. 22, the Planning Commission unanimously adopted the Report and Recommendation of its Hearing Officer in favor of the Planning Department's decision to fine owners of an illegal transient vacation rental in Wailua in the amount of \$130,000.

"When illegal TVR operators blatantly break the law, they disrespect our community, our people, and our island," said Mayor Derek S. K. Kawakami. "It is the responsibility of the County of Kaua'i to aggressively monitor and enforce the law, and the Planning Department will be utilizing new technology and innovative methods to identify illegal TVR operators. The time is now for our community to take back their neighborhoods."

In August of 2017, the Kaua'i County Planning Department issued a formal Notice of Violation and Order to pay a \$10,000 fine to property owners Greg and Joanne Allen for illegal TVR rental activity in Wailua, and informed the owners that they would be subject to ongoing fines if they failed to cease and desist TVR operations.

From August 2017 to Oct. 12, 2018, the Allens continued to conduct illegal TVR activities at their Wailua River property.

Based on the evidence presented during a contested case hearing, the Hearing Officer recommended that the Planning Department's action to shut down the TVR be affirmed, and

that fines totaling \$130,000 be levied against the owners. The Planning Commission unanimously adopted the Hearing Officer's report and recommendation.

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